

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 174

By Windle

A RESOLUTION to recognize Brigadier General Kurtis J. Winstead of the Tennessee Army National Guard on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, we take great pleasure in honoring those members of the United States military who, throughout their distinguished careers, have served with honor, bravery, and an unswerving commitment to duty; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Brigadier General Kurtis J. Winstead of the Tennessee Army National Guard, who, having completed an exemplary tenure of proud service to our nation, retired on January 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Brigadier General Winstead's military career began in late 1990 during soldier preparations for Operation Desert Storm. He received a direct commission as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General Corps and was assigned to the 194<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade, Tennessee Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, during his distinguished career, he served as the Command Judge Advocate, 194<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade, during Operation Iraqi Freedom III, 2004-2006, Iraq, and in recognition of his service, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal; and

WHEREAS, Brigadier General Winstead served in numerous positions of increased responsibility, including as Tennessee's Senior Staff Judge Advocate at the Joint Force Headquarters in Nashville, 2009-2017, before holding the post of Director of the Joint Staff Army Element, from which position he retired; and

WHEREAS, Brigadier General Kurt Winstead received his undergraduate degree from Centre College in Danville, Kentucky, where he was an all-conference athlete, and his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Richmond in Virginia; he later earned a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the United States Army War College; and

WHEREAS, a founding partner at Rudy Winstead Turner PLLC, Brigadier General Winstead has served as general counsel for businesses, providing strategic advice and counsel on commercial transactions, torts, employment issues, and contracts; he also has extensive litigation experience in civil actions in federal and state courts, torts, commercial matters, and defense of employment actions; and

WHEREAS, Brigadier General Kurt Winstead has also served as general counsel for two statewide business associations and as an adjunct instructor for Business Law at Belmont University's College of Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, he has been admitted to practice law in all state and federal courts in Tennessee, the U.S. Court of Appeals, 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court, and he is a member of the Nashville Bar Association, the Williamson County Bar Association, the Tennessee Bar Association, and the American Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, the chair-elect of Leadership Middle Tennessee, Brigadier General Kurt Winstead is an alumnus of the 2018-2019 classes of Leadership Tennessee and Leadership Franklin; he is a board member of Franklin Tomorrow and the Williamson County Industrial Board, past chair of Battle Ground Academy, and a former member of the Tennessee Arts Commission; and

WHEREAS, he also lends his time and talents as a member of the Noon Rotary Club of Franklin, Williamson, Inc., the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9543, and the National Guard Associations of Tennessee and the United States; and

WHEREAS, a loving father and husband, Brigadier General Kurt Winstead is devoted to his family and enjoys the love and support of his wife, Beth Winstead, and their two daughters, Bridget and Mary Hannah; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished career, Brigadier General Kurt Winstead served these United States and the State of Tennessee with honor and distinction, and it is wholly fitting that we recognize him on the occasion of his retirement from military service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Brigadier General Kurtis J. Winstead of the Tennessee Army National Guard upon his retirement, as we extend our gratitude for his many years of selfless service and our best wishes for his every future happiness and success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.